

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

June 18, 2002

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Michael K. Powell, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

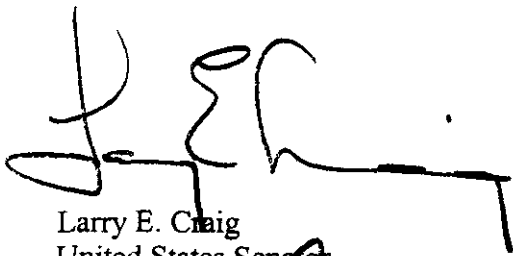
Dear Chairman Powell:

We write regarding Qwest Communications' application for relief under Section 271 of the 1996 Telecommunications Act. Over the past two years we have been following the 271 process Qwest has undertaken to regain entry into the long distance market in Idaho. In that process, the Idaho Public Utilities Commission (IPUC) has worked diligently to complete all steps of the process, to ensure Qwest's network is open to competition and is in compliance with the requirements outlined in the 1996 Telecommunications Act. We support the IPUC's efforts and hope that you will strongly consider their recommendation on Qwest's 271 application. As part of this process, we realize you will be looking at whether Qwest's re-entry into the long distance market is in the public interest. It is an important issue and we believe the Federal Communications Commission's approval of the application would be in the State of Idaho's best interest.

We strongly support efforts that provide incentives for more infrastructure investment and enhance competition across the state. When Qwest has met the requirements outlined in the 1996 Telecommunications Act and is granted relief, it can result in numerous public benefits. This has been demonstrated in other states where Regional Bell Operating Companies have been granted relief. In these cases, other companies have either entered the local markets offering new competitive services, or those already in the market have increased their availability and enhanced their service offerings. That greater competition has resulted in lower costs for service for the residents and businesses of those states.

We encourage your support for Qwest's application for interLATA relief. We are confident that as competition in the telecommunications market continues to increase, more consumer choice, lower prices, and investment in technology and infrastructure will follow.

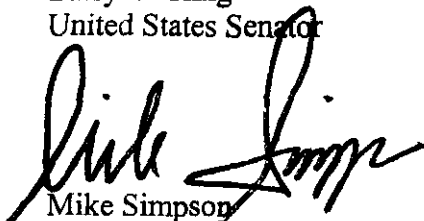
Sincerely,

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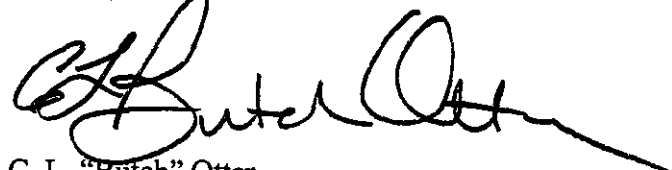
Larry E. Craig
United States Senator



Mike Crapo
United States Senator



Mike Simpson
Member of Congress



C. L. "Butch" Otter
Member of Congress